

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5, and 7-8 have been amended to more definitely set forth the invention, and obviate the rejections. Support for the amendments of base claims 1, 2 and 7 can be found in the Specification on page 21, lines 5-12, and Table 2 on page 69. The present amendment is deemed not to add new matter. Claims 1-14 are in the application.

With regards to the Examiners' comments regarding submission of English translations of the three Japanese priority applications, please note that said translations are attached hereto. In view of the submission of same herewith, it is believed that the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 119 have been satisfied. Accordingly, it is hereby respectfully requested that the Applicants herein receive the benefit of the priority dates of same.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 3, 5 and 9-14 under 35 U.S.C. 112, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 3 and 5 have been amended herein to delete the term "deodorizing cosmetic", and insert in its place "skin treatment composition". It is believed that these amendments render moot the issue of lack of antecedent support. Withdrawal of the rejection is accordingly respectfully requested.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ohmori, et al. (USPA 2003/0091603).

The cited Ohmori, et al. reference discloses an endermic liniment comprised of whitening agents (such as L-ascorbic acid or its derivative, a glucoside of hydroquinone or its derivative,

and kojic acid or its derivative), as well as polyoxyethylene dicarboxylate and a humectant as

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